

Application No. 09/605,688

Atty. Docket No.: 01-047

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all previous versions, and listings, of claims in the present application.

Please amend claims 2 and 30-33 as follows.

1. (Canceled).

2. (Currently amended) An information service system including a plurality of mobile user terminals and a center capable of data communication with said mobile user terminals, said center comprising:

database construction means for adding information based on terminal-side information, including ~~non-GPS~~ data regarding an environment of a user that varies with movement of the user, transmitted by said mobile user terminals to an information database, the information added to the information database being available to subsequent requesting ones of said mobile user terminals;

retrieval means for retrieving information according to the terminal-side information transmitted by said mobile user terminals based on the information database constructed by said database construction means; and

distribution means for distributing the information retrieved by said retrieval means as distributed information,

said mobile user terminals comprising:

input means for inputting information from a user;

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situation detecting means for detecting information on the situation of said user, including the ~~non~~-GPS data regarding an environment of the user that varies with movement of the user;

terminal-side information generation means for generating said terminal-side information including at least information input with said input means and the situation information detected by said situation detecting means;

storage and transmission means for storing the terminal-side information generated by said terminal-side information generation means in memory means and for transmitting it to said center; and

process execution means for executing a predetermined process based on the distributed information distributed by said center,

wherein:

said retrieval means of said center retrieves according to a request for retrieval using information included in said terminal-side information, when said request for retrieval is included in said terminal-side information; and

said process execution means of said mobile user terminals executes a notification process for providing notification of the requested information that is distributed by the center as distributed information.

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3. (Previously presented) An information service system according to claim 2, wherein:

said retrieval means of said center retrieves information relevant to said request for retrieval by inferring it from information included in said terminal-side information; and

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said information retrieved by said retrieval means includes data inferred by said retrieval means from a plurality of types of information included in said terminal-side information that includes data regarding the environment of said user.

4. (Previously presented) An information service system according to claim 2, wherein said database construction means adds information obtained by editing said terminal-side information to said information database as information based on said terminal-side information.

5. (Previously presented) An information service system according to claim 2, wherein said terminal-side information comprises information associated with predetermined entries for inferring information relevant to said request for retrieval.

6. (Original) An information service system according to claim 5, wherein said terminal-side information is stored, transmitted and received in profiles in which information associated with particular entries among said predetermined entries is described.

7. (Previously presented) An information service system according to claim 5, wherein said terminal-side information generation means of said mobile user terminals generates said terminal-side information by inferring unknown information associated with entries of said terminal-side information based on past terminal-side information stored in memory means.

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8. (Previously presented) An information service system according to claim 5, wherein:
said retrieval means of said center retrieves unknown information associated with entries of said transmitted terminal-side information; and
said process execution means of said mobile user terminals executes an information update process for adding information which is said unknown information retrieved by said retrieval means and which is distributed by said center as distributed information to terminal-side information stored in said memory means.

9. (Original) An information service system according to claim 8, wherein said retrieval means of said center selects past terminal-side information stored in said information database which is similar to said transmitted terminal-side information and retrieves unknown pieces of information in said transmitted terminal-side information based on said selected terminal-side information.

10. (Original) An information service system according to claim 9, wherein said retrieval means of said center selects past terminal-side information stored in said information database which is similar to said transmitted terminal-side information based on the degree of similarity calculated on the basis of said profiles.

11. (Previously presented) An information service system according to claim 5, wherein said mobile user terminals further comprise:
priority setting means for setting priorities for predetermined entries of said terminal-side information based on information input with said input means; and

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query means for prompting a user to input information associated with an entry having a relatively high priority set by said priority setting means when said information does not satisfy predetermined conditions.

12. (Previously presented) An information service system according to claim 2, wherein:
said mobile user terminals are used on board a vehicle;
said retrieval means of said center retrieves information on the scenery around the location of said vehicle when said transmitted terminal-side information includes information of the location of said vehicle;

said distribution means distributes said scenery information to said mobile user terminals as distributed information; and

said process execution means of said mobile user terminals executes a structure inference process for inferring structures around the vehicle based on said scenery information as said distributed information.

13. (Previously presented) An information service system according to claim 12, wherein said scenery information is information transmitted by each of said mobile user terminals to said center as image information and edited at said center.

Claims 14-21 (Canceled).

22. (Previously presented) An information service system according to claim 2, wherein said environment of said user includes an outside temperature of a vehicle.

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23. (Previously presented) An information service system according to claim 2, wherein said information on the situation of said user detected by said situation detecting means includes at least data other than user data, including at least one of weather, traffic status, audio environment, speech state, and noise environment.

Claims 24-27 (Canceled).

28. (Previously presented) The information service system according to claim 2, wherein the storage and transmission means is further for automatically transmitting the terminal-side information to said center when a user generated request for retrieval is made.

29. (Canceled).

30. (Currently amended) An information service system including a plurality of mobile user terminals and a center capable of data communication with said mobile user terminals, said center comprising:

a database constructor for adding information based on terminal-side information transmitted by said mobile user terminals to an information database, including ~~non-GPS~~ data regarding an environment of a user that varies with movement of the user;

a retriever connected to said database constructor, for retrieving information according to the terminal-side information transmitted by said mobile user terminals based on the information database constructed by said database constructor; and

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a distributor connected to the retriever, for distributing the information retrieved by said retriever as distributed information,

said mobile user terminals comprising:

an input unit for inputting information from the user;

a situation detector for detecting information on the situation of the user, including the non-GPS data regarding an environment of the user that varies with movement of the user;

a terminal-side information generator connected to said input unit and said situation detector, for generating the terminal-side information including at least information input with said input unit and the situation information detected by said situation detector;

a storage unit for storing the terminal-side information generated by said terminal-side information generator in a memory;

a transmitter for transmitting said terminal-side information in said storage unit to said center; and

a process executor for executing a predetermined process based on the distributed information distributed by said center,

wherein the transmitter is further for automatically transmitting the terminal-side information to said center when a user generated request for retrieval is made, and the information added to the information database, including the non-GPS data regarding an environment of a user that varies with movement of the user, becomes available to subsequent requesting ones of said user terminals.

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31. (Currently amended) An information service system including a plurality of user terminals mounted on a vehicle and a center capable of data communication with said user terminals,

said center comprising:

database construction means for adding information based on terminal-side information transmitted by said user terminals to an information database, including ~~non-GPS~~ data regarding an environment of a user that varies with movement of the user;

retrieval means for retrieving information according to the terminal-side information transmitted by said user terminals based on the information database constructed by said database construction means; and

distribution means for distributing the information retrieved by said retrieval means as distributed information,

said user terminals comprising:

input means for inputting information from a user;

situation detecting means for detecting information on the situation of said user, including the ~~non-GPS~~ data regarding an environment of the user that varies with movement of the user;

terminal-side information generation means for generating said terminal-side information including at least information input with said input means and the situation information detected by said situation detecting means;

storage and transmission means for storing the terminal-side information generated by said terminal-side information generation means in memory means and for transmitting it to said center; and

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process execution means for executing a predetermined process based on the distributed information distributed by said center,

wherein the storage and transmission means is further for automatically transmitting the terminal-side information to said center when a user generated request for retrieval is made, and the information added to the information database, including the ~~non-GPS~~ data regarding an environment of the user that varies with movement of the user, becomes available to subsequent requesting ones of said user terminals.

32. (Currently amended) An information service system including a plurality of user terminals mounted on a vehicle and a center capable of data communication with said user terminals,

said user terminals comprising:

input means for inputting information from a user;

situation detecting means for detecting information on the situation of the user, including ~~non-GPS~~ data regarding an environment of the user that varies with movement of the user;

terminal-side information generation means for generating terminal-side information including at least information input with said input means and the situation information detected by said situation detecting means;

storage and transmission means for storing the terminal-side information generated by said terminal-side information generation means in memory means and for transmitting it to said center; and

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process execution means for executing a predetermined process based on the distributed information distributed by said center,

wherein the storage and transmission means is further for automatically transmitting the terminal-side information to said center when a user generated request for retrieval is made, and the information added to the information database, including the ~~non-GPS~~ data regarding an environment of the user that varies with movement of the user, becomes available to subsequent requesting ones of said user terminals.

33. (Currently amended) An information service system including a plurality of user terminals mounted on a vehicle and a center capable of data communication with said user terminals,

said center comprising:

a database constructor for adding information based on terminal-side information transmitted by said user terminals, including ~~non-GPS~~ data regarding an environment of a user that varies with movement of the user, to an information database;

a retriever connected to said database constructor, for retrieving information according to the terminal-side information transmitted by said user terminals based on the information database constructed by said database constructor; and

a distributor connected to the retriever, for distributing the information retrieved by said retriever as distributed information,

said user terminals each comprising:

an input unit for inputting information from the user;

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a situation detector for detecting information on the situation of the user, including said ~~non-GPS~~ data regarding an environment of the user that varies with movement of the user;

a terminal-side information generator connected to said input unit and said situation detector, for generating said terminal-side information including at least information input with said input unit and the situation information detected by said situation detector;

a storage unit for storing the terminal-side information generated by said terminal-side information generator in a memory;

a transmitter for transmitting said terminal-side information in said storage unit to said center; and

a process executor for executing a predetermined process based on the distributed information distributed by said center,

wherein the transmitter is further for automatically transmitting the terminal-side information to said center when a user generated request for retrieval is made, and the information added to the information database, including said ~~non-GPS~~ data regarding an environment of the user that varies with movement of the user, becomes available to subsequent requesting ones of said user terminals.

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